

Myrmecological Notes.—New Australian Formicidae.

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Aenictus DEUQUETI, sp. nov.

♂. L. 2.7 mm.

Entirely castaneous, the gaster and femora paler than the rest.

Whole body including legs and antennae, with plentiful fairly long pilosity.

Mandibles with a long apical tooth, a very small one next to it, followed by 3 or 4 very minute denticles. Near the base is a small longitudinal groove. Frontal carinae very close together as in *turneri*, For., but absolutely merged into one just behind the antennal insertions. Carinae on cheeks small. The scapes fail to reach the occiput by more than their width at the widest part. They are narrow at the base, and swell to more than twice their width at the apex. All joints of funiculus longer than broad, 3-6 only slightly so. First and second subequal, 3-6 shorter and broader, subequal in length, 7 and 8 increasing in length and breadth, the apical about equal to the 3 preceding together.

Head as broad as long, slightly broader in front, sides feebly convex, occipital border concave.

Promesonotum forms a single convexity, a little flatter at the mesonotum. Mesoeipinotal emargination very slight. Epinotum almost flat for its first $\frac{2}{3}$ rds, then descends to meet the declivity, which is vertical, very short, and bordered by a feeble ridge. Seen from behind it is in the form of a triangle with the apex truncate.

Nodes of pedicel, seen from above, of equal width, the first slightly longer than the second. In profile they are of equal height, the first bearing beneath a flat lamella, of equal width at top and bottom, with the bottom obliquely truncate, the acute angle directed backwards. The second has a small tooth beneath in front.

Femora and tibiae very attenuate at the base and swollen beyond the middle.

Smooth and shining. Sides of mesonotum, mesosternum, epinotum, metasternum and nodes densely reticulate and submat; this reticulation extends partially on to the upper surface of epinotum and first node.

Lismore, N.S.W. (C. Deuquet, 449 and 450). Type W.C.C. Coll.

Near *turneri*, For., from Queensland, but differs in being slightly larger and more robust, darker in colour, and particularly in the shape of the frontal carinae, and the scapes, which are shorter and thicker. Both nodes are longer than in *turneri*. This species is only the third of the sub-family *Dorylinae* yet discovered in Australia.

Strumigenys QUINQUEDENTATA, sp. nov.

♂ L. 2.4 mm.

Dark castaneous; mandibles, pedicel, antennae, legs and apical segments of gaster paler.

A few long hairs on clypeus, pedicel and gaster. Rest of body covered with short recurved hairs, including the scape and legs.

Mandibles nearly straight, half as long as the head, terminated by 4 teeth, the innermost longest, the apical slightly shorter, with 2 small teeth branching from it. About $\frac{2}{3}$ of the length of the mandible on the inner border is a fifth tooth, as long as the apical, broad at base, pointed, slightly curved backwards.

Head shaped very similarly to that of *godeffroyi*; at its widest part, just before the occiput, it is $\frac{3}{4}$ as wide as the head is long (without the mandibles). Anterior border of clypeus feebly convex, almost straight. The scape reaches beyond the posterior quarter of the head. Eyes at bottom of scrobe, a little behind the middle of sides. Joints 2 and 3 of funiculus slightly longer than broad, 3 longer than 2, and both together about as long as the first joint. Joint 4 less than $\frac{1}{2}$ as long as the apical.

Pronotum rather narrow in front and rounded. Mesonotum slightly narrower behind than in front.

There is a distinct but feeble emargination at the meso-epinotal suture.

Base of epinotum slightly longer than the declivity, bordered and flat;

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declivity slightly concave. The spines are pointed, not quite so long as their interval.

The lateral borders of the declivity are provided with a flat lamella, which runs up the spine nearly to the point, forming a sharp angle, descends to the border of the declivity in the centre, thence rising again as a small convex lamella covering the remainder of the border. There are no membranous appendices on the epinotum. Stalk of petiole slightly shorter than the node, which is higher than the postpetiole, and rounded above. Seen from above the node is elongate-oval with a small appendix at each posterior angle. Postpetiole oval, broader than long and than the petiole, and with a mass of spongy material filling the space between the posterior angles and the base of gaster. In profile the petiole has a flat appendix beneath, running along the whole segment, and the postpetiole has beneath a pair of semi-circular wing-like appendices. Mandibles shining, with plentiful minute punctures. Whole head densely reticulate-punctate and shining at the bottom of the punctures. The reticulation is less dense on the clypeus and more noticeable in the scrobes, where it is not obscured by the pilosity.

Sides of thorax and whole of first node similarly but less distinctly sculptured. Dorsum of thorax with a similar ground reticulation and several irregular longitudinal striae.

Base of epinotum similarly reticulate but with no striae. Declivity shining, with a superficial reticulation. Second node and gaster smooth and shining. At the base of the latter is a series of short longitudinal ridges. Legs reticulate.

Manjimup, W. Australia (Clark 467).

♂ ♀ in a nest of *Amblyopone australis*, Er.

Type W.C.C. Coll.

Shape of head intermediate between those of *godeffroyi* and *perplexa*, and the head more deeply emarginate behind than in the former. Joint 5 of funiculus in *godeffroyi* is shorter and thicker.

Acropyga INDISTINCTA, SP. NOV.

♂ L. 2.8 mm.

Yellow, like a *Lasius flavus*; teeth of mandibles dark brown. Body covered with a short erect pubescence. A fringe of hair on clypeus, and a few on gaster, none on scape or tibiae.

Mandibles with 4 irregular teeth. Clypeus high in centre, the anterior border straight.

Head almost rectangular, but slightly wider in front, a fraction broader than long. The posterior angles rounded, occipital border straight. There is a slight depression in centre of occiput. Frontal area narrower and more rounded at the top than in *moluccana*. Eyes composed of about 6 facets, and placed on the anterior $\frac{1}{3}$ of sides of head. The scape fails to reach the occiput by more than twice its breadth. Joints 2-8 of funiculus broader than long, the last joint about equals the preceding two.

Pro- and mesonotum form an even and high convexity.

Meso-epinotal suture very slight.

Declivity of epinotum feebly concave, $1\frac{1}{2}$ as long as the base.

Shining; mandibles striate near the apex. Head covered with small piligerous punctures, a few, less pronounced, on promesonotum.

Mundaring, W. Australia (Clark 241, 307). Distinct from the other Australian species.

Types W.C.C. Coll.

Camponotus (Myrmophyma) walkeri, For., race *bardus*, For., var. ELONGATA, var. NOV.

♂ major, L. 10 mm.

Dark castaneous, coxae, trochanters and femora yellow, mandibles, vertex and occiput, and patches on dorsum of thorax and gaster, darker.

In some specimens most of the upper surface of the body is brown.

Head slightly longer than broad (the reverse in *bardus*); the scapes extend

twice their width beyond occiput (reach it only in *walkeri* and in *bardus*).

Declivity of epinotum less abrupt, concave.

Ground reticulation very coarse on cheeks and clypeus, with irregular elongate punctures, most abundant on clypeus.

The spines on underside of tibiae, generally 5 in number, very short and at regular intervals.

♂ minor. Similarly coloured, but paler.

Head much longer, the sides straight, not convex as in *walkeri*, only slightly broader behind. Scapes longer, extending more than $\frac{1}{2}$ their length beyond occiput.

Armadale, W. Australia (Clark 204, 216).

Types W.C.C. Coll.

NOTES ON COLLECTING, etc.

NOTES FROM THE NORTH OF IRELAND, 1923.—The past season here has been about the worst in my experience, of over thirty years. The winter of 1922-23 was exceptionally mild, with practically no frost or snow; and the early months of 1923 followed suit. Larvae of *Melitaea aurinia* were on the move at the end of February, and sallows in bloom in sheltered spots; the second week in March "winter came"; bitterly cold, north-east and east winds raged day after day, with a short period of calm at rare intervals. This weather continued almost without a break until the middle of June, and Lepidoptera with few exceptions have been all too scarce.

The first butterfly to appear was *Aglais urticae*, several of which were flying along a weedy bank on March 3rd. *Euchloë cardamines* was observed on April 28th; a male at rest, low down in the shelter of a willow bush, the species was fairly common at intervals during May, but not in its usual abundance, although I secured, just emerged, a well marked example of ab. *scheepdaeli**, so recently described in *The Record*, Vol. XXXV., page 102; also a fine female, ab. *radiata*, Williams, and two specimens of this sex, with the costal area pale yellow.

Melitaea aurinia was far from common on the wing in its special haunts, but a fine series was bred from larval nests collected the previous autumn and wintered in the open in the garden.

The spring brood of *Pararge aegeria* race *egerides*, was hardly in evidence, in localities where it usually abounds; and *P. megera* was not seen at all. *Pieris napi* was very late in appearing (May 10th), but a few nice dark females occurred. During June and early July, *Hepialus fusconebulosa* (*velleda*) was flying in swarms everywhere at dusk, and several examples were secured with a series of pale white spots on the upperside of the hindwings.

During July and August, *Epinephele jurtina* being about the only abundant butterfly, I spent some time overhauling this species for aberrations, with fairly good results; more especially in some rough meadows near Lough Fea; here ab. *addenda*, Mousley, was frequent, some of the males having four super-numerary spots on the forewings, above as well as below, and the females large and distinctly marked

* This appears to be very similar to ab. *caulosticta*, Williams, a female aberration.—T.G.